

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [00108] with the following amended paragraph:

[00108] If, at stage 704B, it is determined that a ramp function is desired for the laser bias and signal modulation, instead of the “fast” function, the process 700B advances to stage 712A where ~~TxDISABLE(INT)~~ is deasserted. The process then advances to stage 708B where a choice is made as to whether the ramping down of the signal modulation amplitude and laser bias are to be implemented simultaneously or are, instead, to be implemented in sequential fashion with respect to each other.